

## MEDIA ADVISORY



### ASSEMBLY CHAIR STATEMENT REGARDING MEETING WITH INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE

August 12, 2020

Today the Inspector General's (IG) Office, after preliminary discussions with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, talked with municipal officials and I regarding the purchase of three of the four properties within AO 2020-66(S) as approved last night by the Assembly. According to the IG's interpretation, these property purchases would not be an allowable use of Coronavirus Relief Funds. The IG's office, which made it clear that they could not make a determination, recommended seeking policy guidance directly from Treasury, who is the final decision maker on allowable uses. This is contrary to the advice the Assembly received from our attorneys and my understanding of the guidelines for use of the funds. The next immediate step is to request policy guidance directly from Treasury, the final decision maker on allowable uses. While I am disappointed in the conversation today, I remain hopeful that further discussions with Treasury will resolve this issue. Regardless, we must never stop making progress to assist our houseless population. I am more committed than ever to find solutions that will benefit our entire community.

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